

Let us witness our hearts before us, lookin to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising shame, is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

TRINITY CHARGE--THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Trinity Church, New Bloomfield 9:00 A.M.
Christ Church, Duncannon 10:30 A.M.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP January 7, 1973

INVITATION OF
CHRIST CHURCH

The Organ Prelude
*The Hymn of Praise 63
*The Call to Worship and Invocation
The Scripture --- Luke 22:7-20
*The Gloria Patri
*The Nicene Creed Page 24 *APOLSTLES CREED*
Anthem (Trinity) *PAGE 27*
The Announcements
The Receiving of Tithes and Offerings
*The Doxology
*The Offering Prayer and Lord's Prayer
The Hymn of Meditation 426
Meditation --- "Remember Me!"
The Communion Hymn 341
*The Order of Holy Communion Page 32
*The Seraphic Hymn #522
The Institution of the Lord's Supper
The Consecration of the Elements
The Communion (Please retain the elements until all have received them)
*The Prayer of Thanksgiving
*The Hymn of Response 423
*The Benediction
*The Threecold Amen
*The Postlude

*Congregation Stands

KEY-73 Program FAITH IN ACTION
TODAY AT 4:00 CH. 15 & 43

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
Bible study on Wed. Jan. 10th at 7:30 PM.
This will be of interest to all church school teachers.

TRINITY CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS
Those elected last Sunday were:
Deaconess - Martha Grenoble
Deacons - Earl Lesh, Ed Gaatt, Paul Hair
Elders - Joe Darlington, Jr., Paul Richard
These people will be installed next Sunday morning.

This evening at 7:30 PM a community tree burning will be held in the parking lot of the Lutheran Church. There will be a short service with carols and scripture, followed by fellowship in the Parish House.

CHRIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS
This morning we are installing those elected last week.
Deaconess - Ruth Liddick
Deacons - Dale Shearer, Russel Kiner
Elder - George Achenbach

On Monday evening all available youth are asked to meet at the Otterbein Methodist Church, to distribute bibles in the Duncannon area. If any adults could come to help supervise or help out, it would also be appreciated. They will meet at 6:30 PM.

Monday Jan. 8th at 7:30 PM the Consistory will meet.

Tues. Jan. 9th the Heidelberg Class will meet.
Golden Age will meet here on Thurs. Jan. 11th.
Ladies please remember to make sandwiches.

The Women's Guild will meet at the home of Mabel Golbach Fri. Jan. 12th at 7:30 PM.
Cathy Gamber will be the leader. ✓
CONFIDENTIAL

"Remember Me!"
(A Communion Meditation)

Text : Luke 22:19b, "Do this in remembrance of me."

A few years ago, and perhaps more years than some of us care to remember, there was a television program entitled, "I Remember Mama." The woman who played Mama was Peggy Wood, and the program would begin with the daughter saying "I remember Mama," and then ~~talking~~ ^{SHE WOULD} relate ~~some~~ some incident that had happened with remembering.

From time to time our kids will begin to relate incidents that have taken place in the earlier years of their lives and they will begin by stating, "Remember when we lived in _____ how such and such happened?" or when two old school chums get together many years after graduation they will start reminiscing about old times and "Remember when..."

We have many songs written about this theme. "Remember me, I'm the one who loves You," "I Remember You," "Remember The Good Old Days," and so on.

For the Christian the words "Remember Me" have a special significance, for they bring to mind the words of our Lord Jesus Christ at the Last Supper. The Passover celebrations of Jesus' day, were clearly looking to the Day of the Lord, which was the unknown day in the future, when God would intervene into the affairs of the world and finally redeem His people from bondage.

This celebration or meal was served on low tables around which those who ate reclined on cushions, in the manner of a solemn banquet and all were dressed in festive white. After the blessing, a first glass of wine opened the meal. Following this, they began to eat of the Passover lamb, with bitter herbs, dipped in Harosheth which was a paste of mashed fruits and nuts. ~~HAROSHETH MEANS A MESS AND A TAVERN~~ For the Passover meal itself each Jew was required to eat lamb in the amount of the size of an olive. In fact the lamb was quite often

served in this size and amount at the meal. Following the meal, each person could eat as much more, or as little of the lamb as they chose. However the lamb had to be completely consumed, and so ~~expecting expect the size of the group determined how large the lamb would be.~~

Following the eating of the lamb at the meal, a second plate of wine was served and at this time a designated "Son" of the family asked the ceremonial question, "Why is this night different from all other nights?" This introduced the recital of song and story of the historical past redemption of Israel from slavery in Egypt. This continued with the up to date history of Israel and ended with a prayer for the redemption of the land from the Roman occupation forces. Following this prayer, which latter became a prayer for the return to Jerusalem the ceremonies were over and the gathering could continue informally or privately as they chose.

This is perhaps the format ~~that~~ the Last Supper took when Jesus ate it with his disciples. However, what was changed or should we say introduced, was the substitution of Jesus' body and blood instead of that of an actual lamb. Jesus at this meal became the lamb that was slain for the redemption, or the "Passing Over of the Lord."

His very words at the institution of this Supper, were words of anticipation and looking forward to this meal. He said, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer." In other words he was saying, "I have looked forward to this meal with you, so that I may explain to you or show to you what is going to take place. For I tell you ~~that~~ I shall not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread and gave it to them saying, "This is my

body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. And likewise the cup after supper saying, 'This cup is which is poured out for you is the new covenant of my blood.'

He was explaining to them in all of this that He was about to be the sacrifice for them and the world. He was telling them that this meal took on more significance that night than any other Passover they had ever celebrated before. He was saying, "Look, I am doing this for you, and each time from now on when you assemble for this feast, when you eat the bread, and when you drink the cup of wine, "Remember Me."

To ~~kick~~ the disciples this meal, and the strange words of their Leader must have ~~had~~ ^{HAD} a very ~~xxx~~ mysterious ring to it. Recall how Peter said, "No that cannot happen to you Lord. I ~~won't~~ will not let it happen." He was merely using the words that almost all people use at one time or another. If someone had told you about a week ago that one of the finest men to ever play major league baseball would not play this year, you or I would have said, "Why that's impossible, he is still good for another 3 to 5 years at least." Yet today we know that Roberto Clemente has passed into eternity.

Is it any wonder then that Jesus' followers did not actually know or care to know for that matter that He was going to walk out of that room to meet His death. But that is the way of life. We find it hard to "Remember Me" as He said.

In the act of Communion itself we find it very difficult to put ourselves in the proper spirit or frame of mind. To some people it is merely another festive observance of the Church. Why is it that people will come out for the Communion Service, but cannot make it for the other services? To some others it is merely another lovely little something that is full of ritual and symbolism and has no real meaning for their lives. But to still others it is the opportunity to come







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Born: April 9, 1929, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Married: December 15, 1951

Wife: Shirley Margaret Neill

Born: December 8, 1930, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Children: Ralph Dale Link, born May 11, 1955, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Lloyd Alan Link, born May 28, 1958, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Nancy Lynn Link, born March 15, 1961, Butler, Pa.

SCHOOLING:

Graduated from Perry High School, Pittsburgh, Pa.
June 1947

Lay Ministry School, Penn West Conference of United
Church of Christ, September 1965 to May 1969

Commissioned Lay Minister June 1969

Lancaster Theological Seminary, Lancaster, Pa.,
September 1970

Graduated from Lancaster Theological Seminary May 1974

Ordained to Christian Ministry March 10, 1974

PASTORATES:

As Lay Minister: short term, 1 month or less in
various churches 1965 to 1967

Emlenton Lamartine Charge of United Church of Christ
1967 to 1969

Short term in various churches 1970 until Seminary
entrance July 1970

July 1970 to December 1973 Student Pastor at Trinity
Charge, New Bloomfield, Duncannon, Pa., Penn Central
Conference, United Church of Christ

December 1973 to present, St. Paul's United Church of
Christ, Butler, Pa., Penn West Conference, United
Church of Christ

PERSONAL TESTIMONY

OF

Ralph C. Link

I am the youngest of five children. I was born just prior to the onset of the Depression. Our family was very poor. My father was an alcoholic and my mother was a very religious person who was searching for the Lord. During my childhood she did her best to teach me the things of the Lord. Later in life she came to a personal relationship with Him.

I grew up in the Evangelical and Reformed Church where salvation by grace alone was not preached nor taught. I knew all about Jesus, what He did, how He lived, His miracles, His death and resurrection, but I didn't know Him personally.

My life had many ups and downs and all the while I was attending church and striving with my good works to please God. At a very low point in my life when we were deeply in debt and my wife and three children were all ill, I came to the crossroads. I watched a Billy Graham Crusade on television from some distant city and the message he preached seemed to be directed right at me. I wrestled with making that commitment to Christ, but didn't. The next afternoon and evening at work on the 4 to 12 shift I came to the conclusion that I needed to make that commitment to Christ. It seemed like there was no other choice if life was to have any meaning. That night when I came home from work at 1:00 A.M., I laid face down on the living room floor and told God that I couldn't live my life in my own strength and I accepted the gift of salvation from my Savior Jesus Christ. My life has never been the same.

Through several meaningful circumstances I was called by God to serve Him in the Christian Ministry and to help spread that wonderful message of salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. What a wonderful and rewarding time it has been and I give Him all the praise for my salvation and the opportunity to serve Him.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

OF

Ralph C. Link

I believe the Bible, both the Old and New Testaments to be the inspired inerrant Word of God. I believe the Bible is the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men and it is the final authority for the Christian faith and life.

I believe in one God, who is eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

I believe in the Diety of the Lord Jesus Christ that He is true God and true man. I believe that He was born of the Virgin Mary, that He lived in sinless life, that He performed the miracles recorded in Scripture, that He died on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins, that He bodily arose from the dead, that He ascended on high where He is at the right hand of Almighty God as our intercessor.

I believe in the Holy Spirit and that He comes and indwells each believer at the time of conversion. I believe that He lives in each believer to lead, to instruct, and to convict so that a believer may live a more godly life.

I believe that through the shed blood of Jesus Christ and through His resurrection, this is the only ground for justification and salvation for all who receive Him A Lord and Savior and to such as receive Him, they are born of the Holy Spirit and become children of God.

I believe water baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of the Church but are not means of salvation.

I believe in the personal and premillennial and imminent coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I believe in the resurrection of the dead, for the believer to resurrection of life and joy with the Lord, for the unbeliever to resurrection of judgement and everlasting punishment.